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TRANSFORMERS

FORMERS

THE WAR WITHIN

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TRANSFORMERS™ THE WAR WITHIN

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TRANSFORMERS: The War Within, Issue 2, Vol. 1, November 2002
First Printing. Published by Dreamwave Productions, 2750 14th
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"ALAS, POOR XEON..."

CYBERTRON, ORBITAL
TORUS STATE: KAON.

THE DECEPTICON
FORTRESS OF KOLKULAR:

...IF ONLY HE
COULD HAVE KNOWN
WHAT A DARK **SMEAR**
HIS DEATH WOULD LEAVE
ON THE HISTORY LOGS
OF CYBERTRON.

THE CRADLE:

WOULD HE,
I WONDER, HAVE
BEEN SO **QUICK** TO
ACCEPT OUR
BRIBES, TO TURN
A BLIND EYE...

...IF HE COULD
SEE NOW **ALL** HE
UNWITTINGLY SET
IN MOTION?

THE EMIRATE'S
GREED WAS THE
OPPORTUNITY, HIS
DEATH THE
SPUR.

THE
BEGINNING...

...AND NOW
THE **END**.

WE AWAIT YOUR
COMMAND, LORD
MEGATRON.

WHAT?
NO!



LASERBEAK,
REPLAY AERIAL RECON
FILE VG.2-- PERHAPS OUR
SUDDENLY **GARRULOUS**
LEADER WAS TOO BUSY
PONTIFICATING TO GRASP
ITS SIGNIFICANCE.



LOOK-- THE
AUTOBOTS
ARE ALL PACKED
UP AND READY
TO RUN!

AND WHAT?
YOU'RE JUST
GOING TO LET THEM
GO? I THOUGHT THE
IDEA WAS TO WIPE
THEM OUT.



STARSCREAM, UNDERSTAND THIS. YOU ARE
A **BLUNT INSTRUMENT**, TO BE DELIVERED
WITH DIRECTION AND FORCE. IN THIS
CAPACITY, YOU HAVE FEW PEERS.

BUT
PLEASE...
LEAVE THE
THINKING
TO ME.

TRUE, I NEVER
EXPECTED THIS
NEW **PRIME** WOULD
HAVE THE SHEER
BRASS TO ORDER A
PLANET-WIDE
EVACUATION, BUT
TRUST ME...



...THEY'RE
NOT GOING
ANYWHERE!

HUB CAPITAL:
IACON.

CENTRAL
SPACEPORT.

BACK IT UP,
BACK IT UP.
GOOD.

OKAY, THAT
ONE'S AT
CAPACITY. MOVE
IT ALONG.



I TELL YOU,
IRONHIDE, I NEVER
THOUGHT I'D SEE
THE DAY.

ME EITHER.
IT'S JUST, I
DUNNO...
WRONG.



THIS IS OUR
WORLD, HOUND,
OUR HOME. WE
CAN'T JUST UP
AND GO!



WHAT CAN
WE DO? WE
BOTH SWORE THE
SAME OATH OF
ALLEGIANCE.



IT'S JUST
THAT, WELL,
THIS PRIME IS
NEW, AND...

...WHAT IF
HE NOT UP
TO JOB?





WE ALL THINK IT, RIGHT? FOR YEARS, WE FIGHT AND DIE...AND FOR WHAT? TO RUN, HIDE?

THIS SLAP IN FACE FOR ALL THOSE WHO DIE FOR CAUSE, FOR ALL THOSE STILL WILLING TO CARRY ON.

ER, GRIMLOCK...



GRIMLOCK!

IN FACT, WE NOT STAND FOR IT. TIME FOR ANOTHER PLAN... MAYBE EVEN ANOTHER LEADER.

I CAN'T HOLD---

THRUNCH!!



MARVELLOUS.

HOW MANY TIMES IS THAT?

THREE, TODAY.

AH, HE'LL BE BACK.

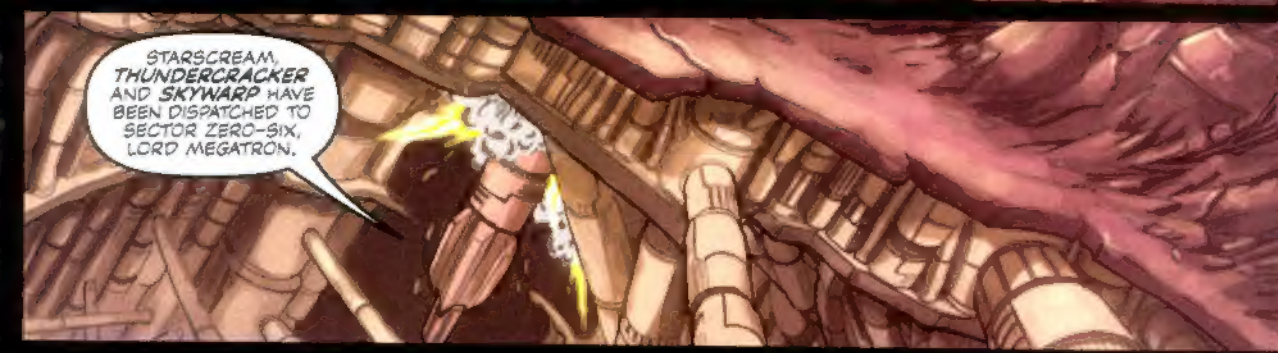
WILL HE? I WONDER...




KOLKULAR:



KH-LWNW!




STARSCREAM,
THUNDERCRACKER
AND SKYWARD
HAVE BEEN DISPATCHED TO
SECTOR ZERO-SIX,
LORD MEGATRON.

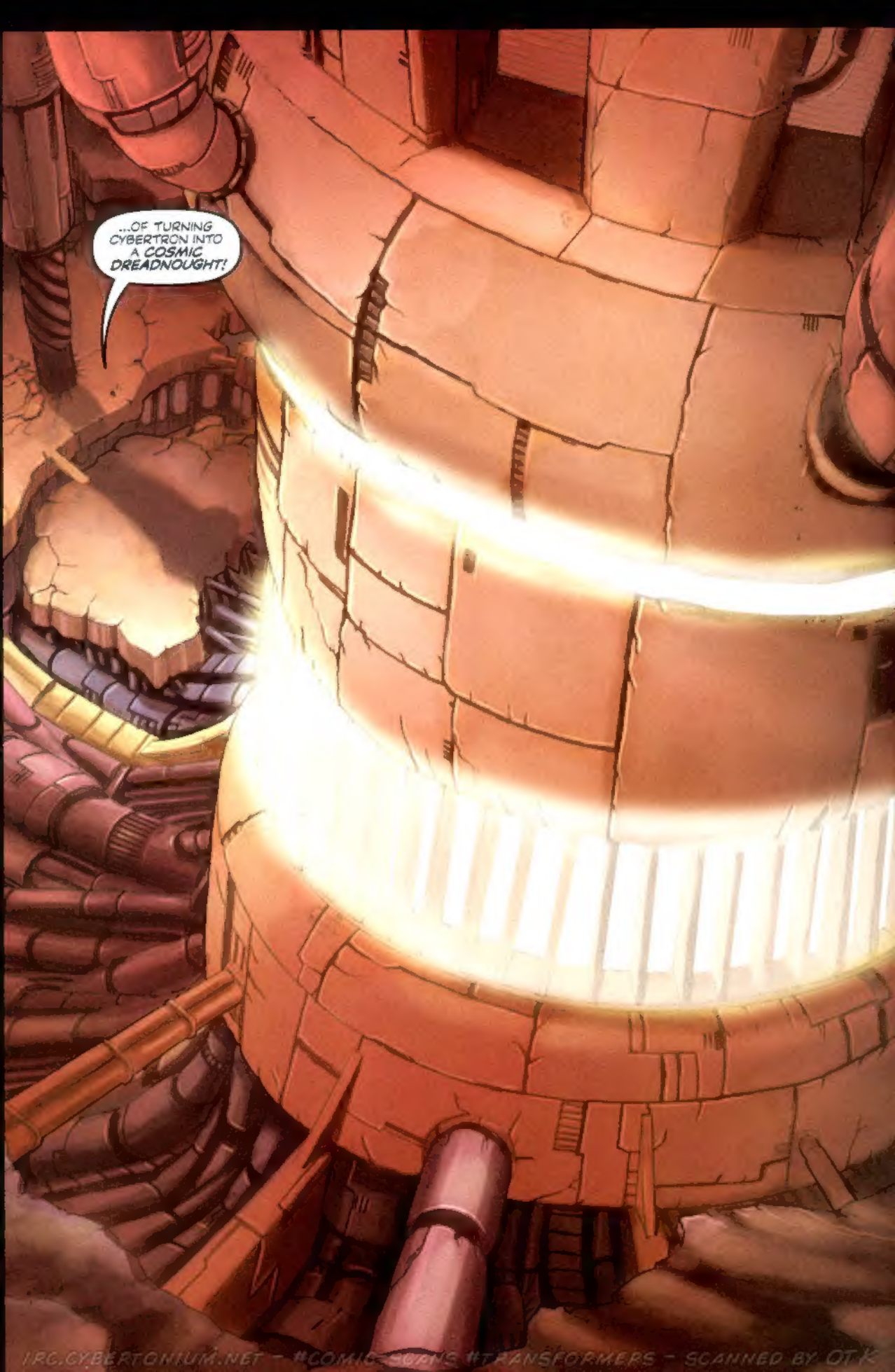


GOOD. THE
COMMAND POST
THERE IS OF LITTLE
TACTICAL IMPORTANCE.
BUT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR
THE MOMENT TO
MAINTAIN AN ILLUSION
OF BUSINESS AS
USUAL.

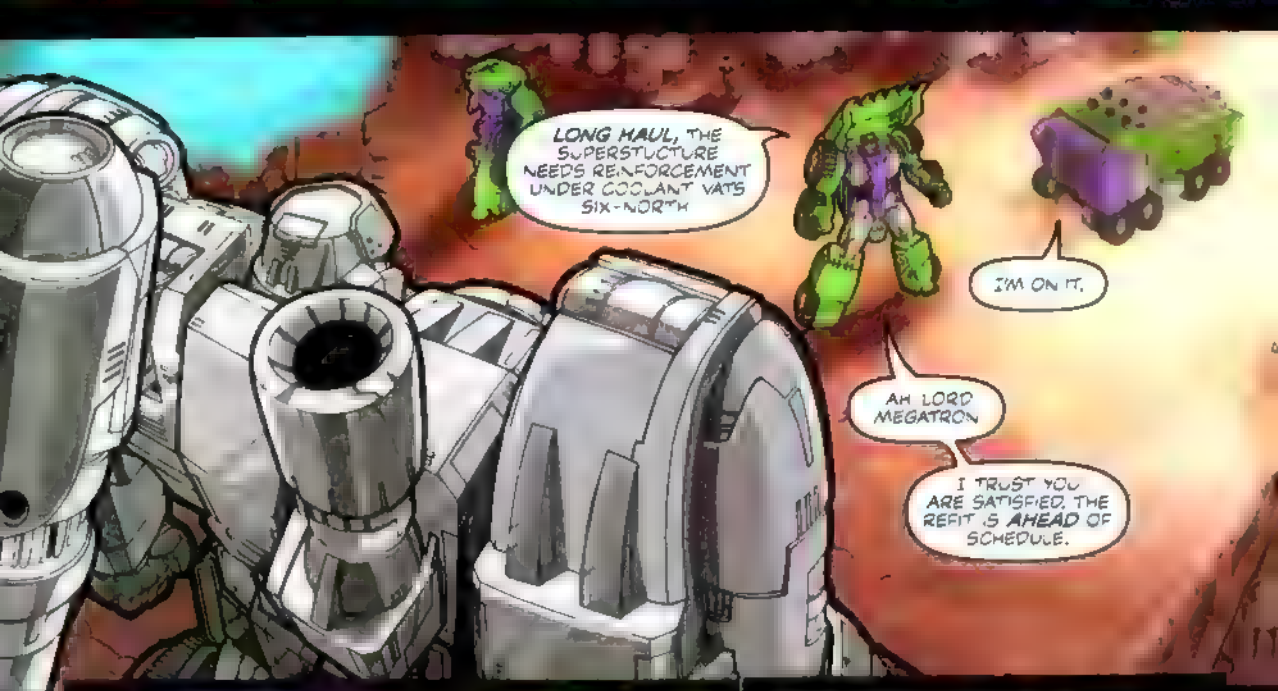
AND, OF
COURSE, IT KEEPS
STARSCREAM...
OCCUPIED.



WHILE I
CONCERN
MYSELF WITH
THE LITTLE
MATTER...



...OF TURNING
CYBERTRON INTO
A COSMIC
DREADNOUGHT!



LONG HAUL, THE
SUPERSTRUCTURE
NEEDS REINFORCEMENT
UNDER COOLANT VATS
SIX-NORTH

I'M ON IT.

AH LORD
MEGATRON

I TRUST YOU
ARE SATISFIED. THE
REPAIR IS AHEAD OF
SCHEDULE.



INDEED, TELL
ME **SCRAPPER**, IF
WE WERE TO FIRE UP
ONE OF THE PRIMARY
PLANETARY TURBINES,
WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN?

IT WOULD...
IGNITE, AND THE
REACTION WOULD
BOIL **SUPERHEATED**
PLASMA WASTE
THROUGH AN
EXHAUST VENT.



ONLY... THE VENTS ARE **SEALED**,
BEEN THAT WAS FOR SOME
CONSIDERABLE TIME



YOU
SPECIFICALLY
WANTED THEM
LEFT LIKE THAT...
RIGHT?



YES, YES, AND
WHEN THE PLASMA
OUTFLOW **REACHES**
THOSE SURFACE
STRATA?

PHH, NEXT
STEP, OUTER
SPACE



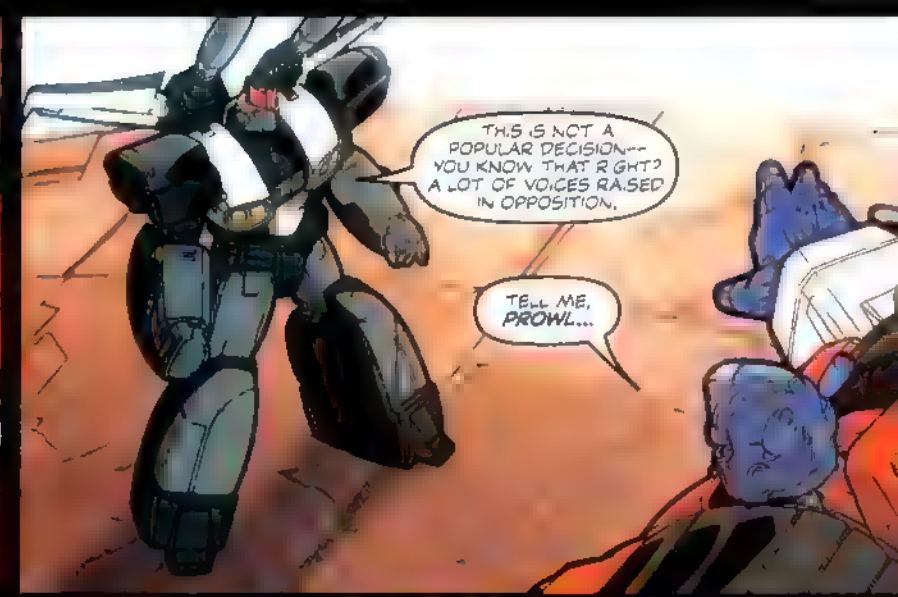
IACON, THE HIGH COUNCIL PAVILLIONS:

THE TOWER OF PION.



HOW DOES THE EVACUATION?

AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED, GIVEN THE LOGISTICS, THE TIMESCALE, THE GENERAL LACK OF MOTIVATION.



THIS IS NOT A POPULAR DECISION-- YOU KNOW THAT R GHT? A LOT OF VOICES RAISED IN OPPOSITION.

TELL ME, PROWL...



..IS YOURS ONE OF THEM?



IF WE STAY AND FIGHT, CYBERTRON WILL BECOME A WASTELAND. THERE CAN BE NO WINNERS HERE WE HAVE TO LET IT GO.

BEFORE I BECAME PRIME, I WAS A SAMPLE STATISTICIAN, A COLLATOR OF DATA, ACROSS COLUMNS AND SPREADSHEETS I ADDED THE SUM TOTAL OF WAR, MADE THE ONLY POSSIBLE PROJECTION

BASED ON WHAT? AN EQUATION? A DECISION LIKE THAT IT HAS TO COME FROM HERE



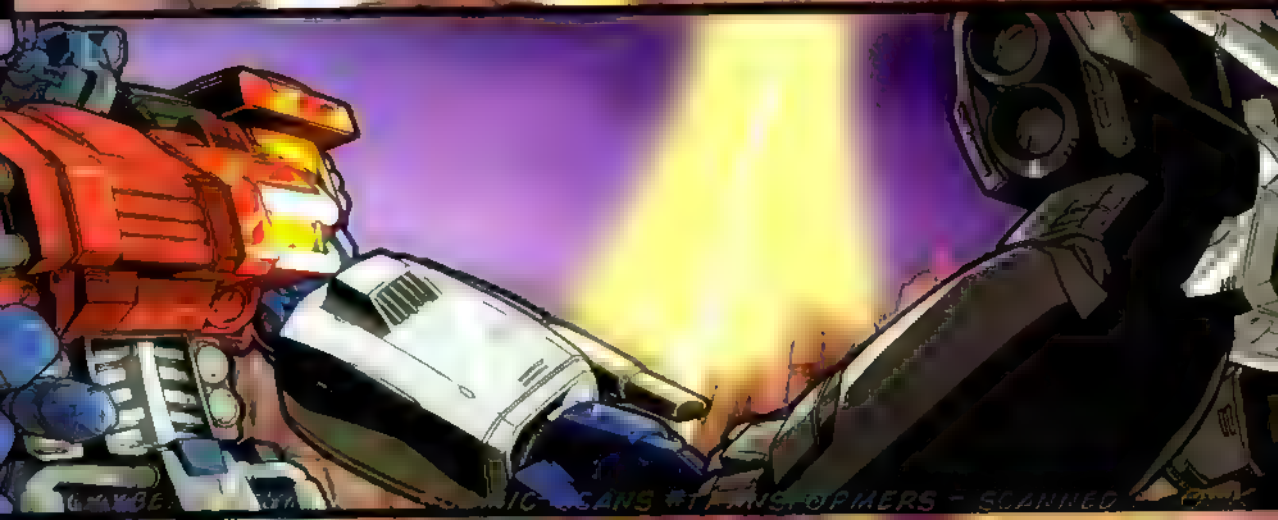
YOU HAVE TO LOOK WITHIN--- EH?

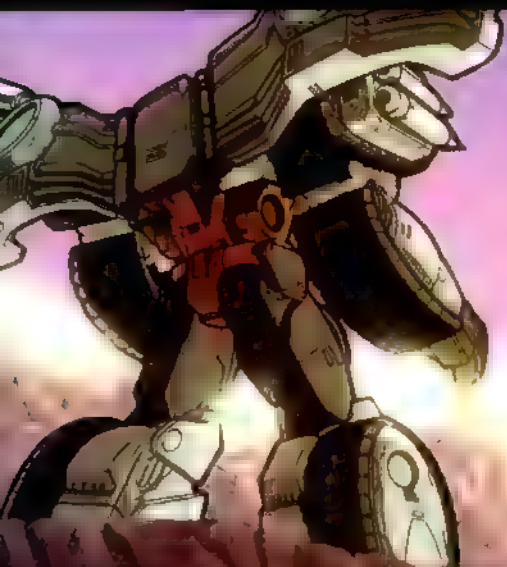
THE TOWER! NO.. THE PLANET ITSELF, SOMETHING ..



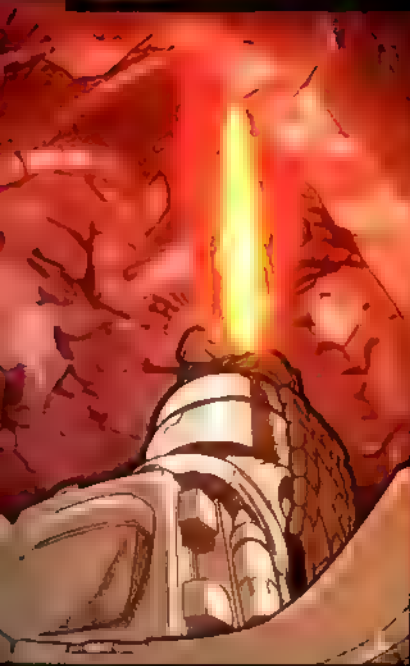
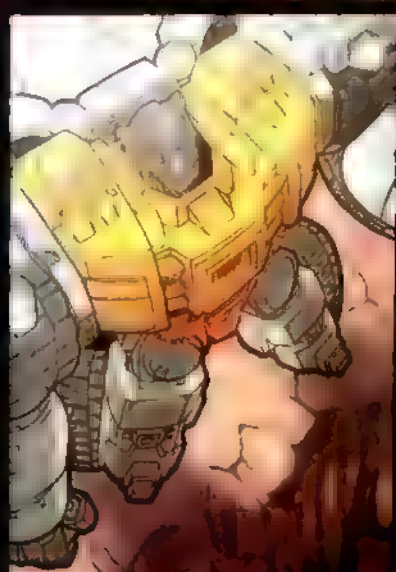
IACON, SUB-ORBITAL DISTRICT:

THE FORUM OF ENLIGHTENMENT:





ORBITAL TORUS STATE:
KACON!



WITHIN:

THE ULTIMATE REALIZATION
OF OUR PRIMARY AGENDA
IS AT HAND.

FITTING THEN
THAT IT TOO BEGAN
UNDERGROUND: HIDDEN
WRAPPED IN GUILE AND
SUBTERFUGE, SUCH S THE
DECEPTICON WAY.

THE COMBATS WE
ONCE STAGED IN OUR
ARENAS MASKED THE
GATHERING, THE
HARVEST OF LIKE
MINDS

THE WEAK WERE WINNOWNED
OUT, THE DOUBTERS SILENCED,
AND WHEN WE WERE AT
OPTIMUM STRENGTH.

...WE **STRUCK!** FAST,
DIRECT, MERCILESS.
WAR WAS UPON THEM
IN A STUNNED
INSTANT

BUT THE SUBJUGATION OF
CYBERTRON WAS MERELY A
FEINT, A DISTRACTION. TO
MASK THE WORK HERE.
WORK THAT'S NOW
ALMOST COMPLETED.

SOON, HE WILL COME
AND YOU WILL BE
WAITING!

IACON: SUB-ORBITAL DISTRICT.

RATCHET?

I'M READING NOTHING. NO LIFE SIGNS WITHIN THE ENTIRE RADIUS OF THE BLAST AREA.

THEY'RE ALL GONE.

HOW MANY? RED ALERT?

THE LOCATOR FEED IS STILL COMING IN A LOT.

WHAT HAPPENED?

THIS GOES WAY DOWN, RIGHT INTO THE GUTS OF THE PLANET. SOME KIND OF GAS POCKET? AN OLD REACTOR OUR SCANS NEVER PICKED UP... OR.

NO...

...IT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT AT ALL.

...THE SEEDS OF DESTRUCTION HAVE ALREADY BEEN SOWN, UNDER YOUR VERY FEET.

HE DID THIS MEGATRON.

WHAT? HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

I JUST KNOW. I CAN'T EXPLAIN. HE DID THIS. HE DID ALL THIS--

--TO GET MY ATTENTION.

SUB-SURFACE
CYBERTRON:

ACCESS SHAFT 0-5,
IACON EAST:

CLUNGG!



HN. WHAT?

PROWL? IS
THAT YOU? I'M
TOO DEEP I DON'T
THINK YOUR
SIGNAL CAN
PENETRATE.

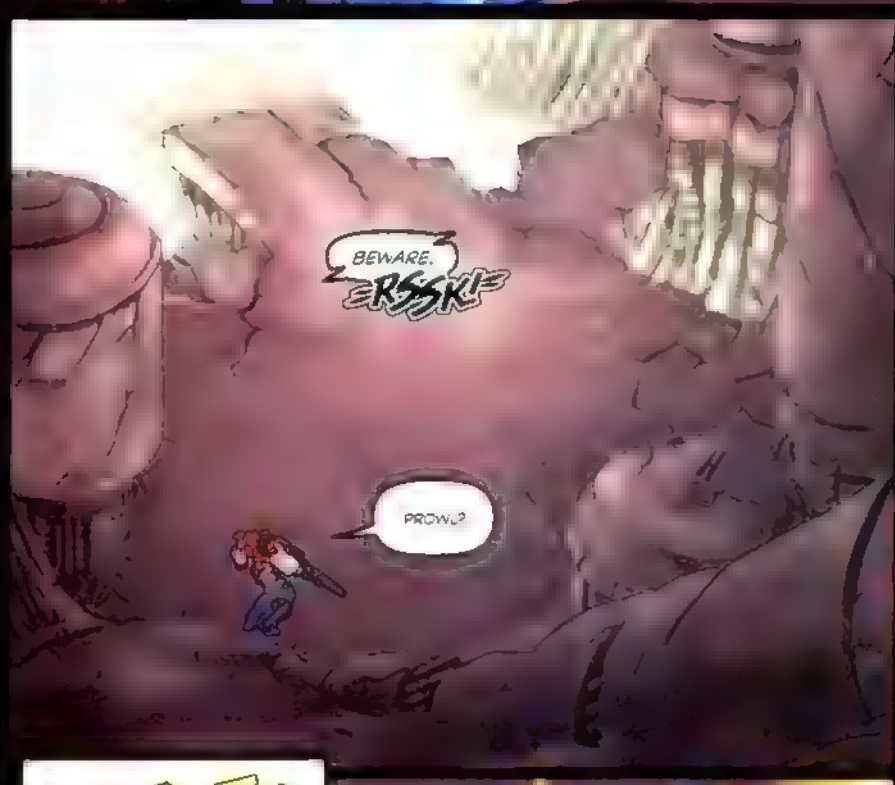
ZZ-KRRRT!

ZZZR



OPTIMUS
BZZ-RR
PRIME.

PROWL?
I--



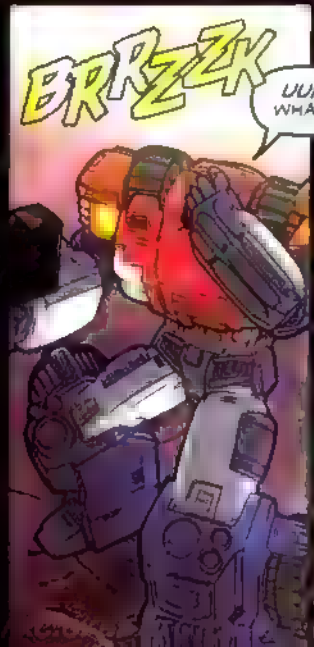
BEWARE.
ERSSKIE

PROWL?



THIS IS
MADNESS.

WHAT WAS I
THINKING? EVEN IF
I FOUND MEGATRON
WHAT THEN? I
CAN'T--



BRRZZK

UHHN!
WHAT--?



SP-KOW!



BY THE
SOURCE



GH-AK!

THRABOON!

WAIT...
WAIT!

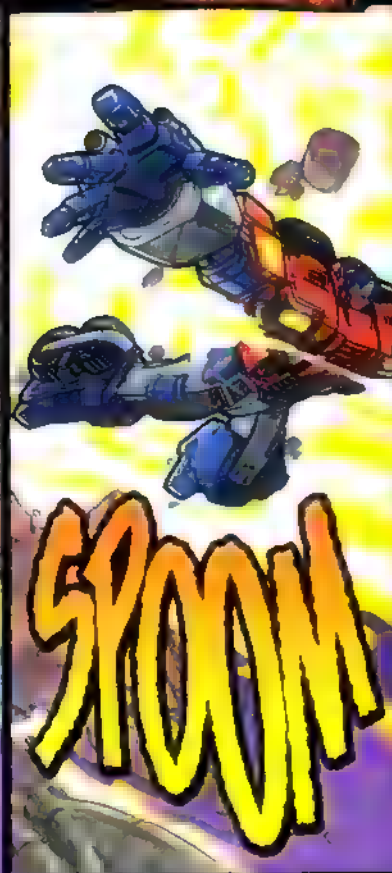
IF MEGATRON
WANTS ME,
I WON'T RESIST.
TAKE ME TO
HIM...



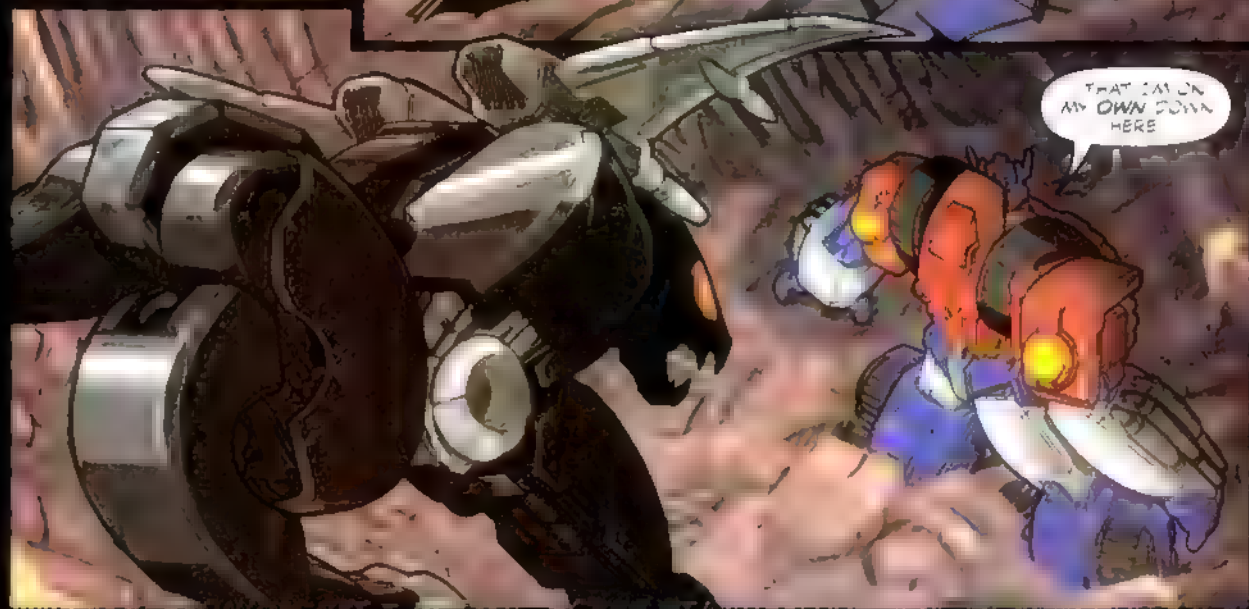
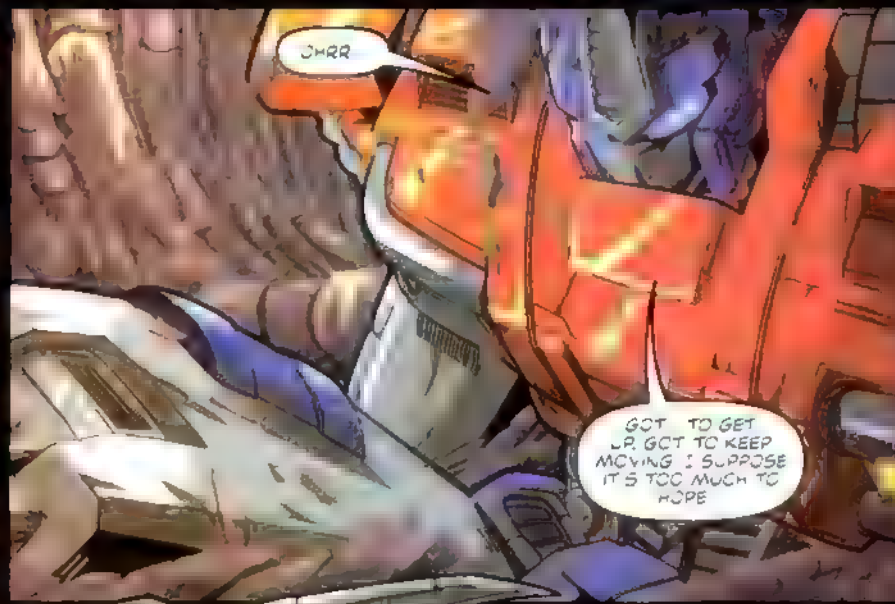
OH, HE
WANTS
YOU...

HE WANTS YOUR
TWITCHING
CORPSE!

KOOM!
KOOM!



SPOOM



IACON, THE HIGH
COUNCIL PAVILLIONS:

THE DECAGON:

HE'S...
GONE?!

AND YOU
JUST LET
HIM GO?
ALONE?

HE WAS
ADAMANT. WE'RE TO
ACCELERATE THE
EVACUATION AND PROCEED
DIRECTLY TO THE STAGING
POINT HE SAID HE'D
JOIN US THERE.

THIS ISN'T
GOOD. WE MAY NOT
AGREE WITH HIM
BUT HE IS THE
PRIME.

WE CAN'T
JUST--

HEY..
HEY!

AUTOBOTS...

INCOMING..
A WHOLE MESS OF
INCOMING OUTLYING
DEFENSES HAVE BEEN
ENGAGED.

THERE'S
SOMETHING ELSE.
A BROADBAND
TRANSMISSION.
I'LL..



...THE HOUR OF
YOUR ERADICATION
IS AT HAND!

TO BE
CONTINUED...

TRANSFORMERS

THE WAR WITHIN

Deep within Cybertron, OPTIMUS PRIME faces his first and greatest test, an ordeal by fire against five lethal DECEPTICON warriors. Wounded, on the run, PRIME must plumb personal depths of strength and character he didn't even know he possessed. But even if he survives, waiting in the wings is MEGATRON... whose agenda is more terrifying and far-reaching than anyone had imagined!



ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 200

**TRANSFORMERS**
ARMADA

Writer Simon Furman (TRANSFORMERS: The War Within) and TRANSFORMERS: Generation 1 artist supreme Pat Lee present a special, two-part Armada story! You'd think that MEGATRON, powerful beyond measure in his own right and now further augmented by MINICON might, would be content. Well, you'd be wrong. Now, MEGATRON is looking to forge the ultimate MINICON weapon, the Star Saber! As for OPTIMUS PRIME and the AUTOBOTS, their own MINICONS are missing... and with them went their only chance of survival!



PAT LEE
SIMON FURMAN

ISSUE 6

DECEMBER 2002



DECEMBER 2002 DREAMWAVE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS



Dreamwave Productions brings you an amazing collection of TRANSFORMERS artwork in December 2002. The first of four profile books, Dreamwave promises to deliver original art depicting Generation One characters. Various artists, whose art you have already experienced in G1 calendars and posters, have signed on to fill the first book. This book lists the names and traits of your favorite G1 characters, and the exceptional coloring and artistic quality you have come to expect from all DreamWave products enhance simple nostalgia. We won't say you have to get this first of four profile books, you will simply regret it if you don't. Great for the holidays as an introduction to the TRANSFORMERS Generation One characters, or simply as a refresher for those who were around the first time.

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